

## Nevada State Medical Association

Our next annual Nevada State Medical Association meeting is to be held at Bowers Mansion, Friday and Saturday, September 12 and 13. And on Sunday the 14th, we are to take an automobile or airplane ride to Lake Tahoe or some other nearby famous, beautiful and interesting place or places. Saturday, beginning about 8 p. m., we will have a cabaret dance at Bowers Mansion, twenty miles south of Reno, on the highway to Carson City. Ample transportation from the Golden Hotel or the M. D.'s offices in Reno will be provided.

This is to be our best year in attendance and program. If you fail to come, you know you will be sorry. If you come, you will always be glad for several reasons. It would strengthen our State and National organizations and be a local help to some physicians and their patients as well, if you who are not organized would form county or community medical societies composed of one or more counties. The fundamental essential qualifications for thorough organization are membership, scientific interest, and money.

We already have enough papers offered to keep us busy both days, Friday and Saturday, the 13th and 14th.

Usually we have had offers of papers galore a few weeks before our meeting when too late to accept the offers. This year we are early in completing our list, so the program is finished unless someone notifies us he cannot come. However, we might squeeze in a clinical case or two during program hours. And those who have offered papers are urged to present clinical cases during their allotted time.

On the night of our business meeting (Friday at the Chamber of Commerce Hall, in Reno), we will have a reel of movies showing something of value and interest from a noted surgeon from Illinois.

Governor Scrugham has appointed the following people for the Board of the Child Welfare Division of the State Board of Health: Horace J. Brown, M. D., Reno; A. J. Hood, M. D., Reno; Mrs. W. A. Shockley, Reno; Mrs. Frank E. Humphrey, Reno; and Mrs. Sarah George, Sparks. This department functions under the Sheppard-Towner Act.

The Military Affairs Committee is maturing rapidly. The Government wants all who are eligible to join the Reserve Corps. Our State president is re-enlisting, although years ago he swore off.

The Surgeon-General has sent us a list of seven Nevada M. D.'s who are now members of the Medical Officers Reserve Corps. He is very anxious to secure membership in the Reserve Corps from all eligible M. D.'s in our State. If you want an application blank, let your secretary know and it will be mailed.

If your dues are not paid before April 1, you will be reported to the A. M. A. as a non-member.

M. H. Crocker has moved from Winnemucca to Oakland, Calif., with offices in the Hutchinson building.

**Washoe County Medical Society** (reported by Vinton A. Muller, secretary)—A regular meeting of the Washoe County Medical Society was held at the Commercial Club, Reno, Nev., on Tuesday evening, March 11, with an attendance of over fifty members. President R. H. Richardson presided at the meeting. The Society was honored with the presence of Howard C. Naffziger, clinical professor of neurological surgery at the University of California, who presented to the Society two very interesting papers. The first paper explained in detail the results obtained by ventriculography, and was illustrated with lantern slides. Following this, Naffziger presented a motion picture reel of peripheral nerve injuries among the war veterans treated at the Letterman

General Hospital. All other business was dispensed with except the voting on an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws, providing that our regular meeting night be changed from the first Tuesday of each month to the second Tuesday of each month, which was carried.

The applications for membership from Alice Thompson, Reno, and W. H. Riley, Gold Hill, were voted upon and both elected to membership. The applications of Ira J. Sellers and Frank L. Barrows, both of Reno, were submitted to be voted upon at the next meeting.

A letter from Mrs. George McKenzie, expressing appreciation for the floral offering and words of sympathy sent by the Society, following George McKenzie's death, was read.

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**Medicine and Physicians in Europe**—"It is customary in France for the different faculties to take turns in delivering the address at the reopening exercises of the university each year. This year at the University of Strasbourg, the honor fell to the medical faculty, and Prof. G. Weiss, dean, was selected to give the address," writes the Paris correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association. "He took as his subject, 'Medicine and Physicians.' He spoke first of popular misconceptions in regard to medicine and the peculiar opinions that one frequently hears expressed about physicians. Speaking then of patients, Weiss expressed astonishment over the frequent lack of confidence in the men who have devoted their lives to acquiring the knowledge of their predecessors and to developing new knowledge in the field of medicine, and the trust that is placed in ignorant charlatans, whose influence is based on idle gossip, on man's love for the mysterious, and on his feeling of contempt for a man who frankly admits that there is no absolute certainty that he can prevent a mortal from dying. To judge from the conversations one hears on street-cars and trains, one might suppose that everybody was versed in medicine except the physician. The public is at times fascinated by the empiricist, who claims to have secret remedies for all diseases, in spite of his clumsiness and often absurdity. The remarkable thing is the tenacity of his faith, which persists in spite of the occurrence of disappointments and accidents. Every day our clinics are thronged with unfortunate men and women whose condition is hopeless because some charlatan promised to cure them at a time when the disease was still amenable to treatment, and keeps them from the hospital until the condition is hopeless; he then sends them only to avoid being held responsible for his misdeeds. The credulity of the public is such that some physicians—the apaches of our profession—actually conceal their doctor's title and carry on what appears to be an illegal practice, and beg the police not to divulge the fact that they hold a medical diploma, for fear they will lose some of their clients who are destitute of sense."

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**Metabolic Mechanism in Beriberi**—William D. Fleming (The Philippine Journal of Science, November, 1923) says, in concluding his research upon this subject:

1. In a series of beriberi patients the basal metabolic rate was found to be the same as in normal controls. The respiratory quotients were normal. With the percentages of heat obtained from the combustion of protein, of fat, and of carbohydrate, they point to a normal utilization of the food eaten. No evidence of the high carbohydrate intake as a disturbing factor was found.

2. Blood-sugar values were against the high carbohydrate intake causing a "diabetic tendency."

3. No evidence was found of damage to the excretory power of the kidney in beriberi, either in patients with oedema or in those without this symptom.